

Report Documentation Page			Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188		
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1. REPORT DATE 1998		2. REPORT TYPE		3. DATES COVERED 00-00-1998 to 00-00-1998	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Recognition of Outstanding Work by Aquatic Science Students: Cooperation between the Americam Society of Limnology and Oceanography and the Ocean Sciences Directorate of The Office of Naval Research				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S)				5d. PROJECT NUMBER	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Whitman College,ASLO Office,200 Boyer Ave,Walla Walla,WA,99362				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release; distribution unlimited					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES See also ADM002252.					
14. ABSTRACT					
15. SUBJECT TERMS					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT Same as Report (SAR)	18. NUMBER OF PAGES 2	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT unclassified	b. ABSTRACT unclassified	c. THIS PAGE unclassified			

Recognition of Outstanding Work by Aquatic Science Students: Cooperation between the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography and the Ocean Sciences Directorate of The Office of Naval Research

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LONG-TERM GOALS

The ASLO Student Poster Award was created by the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO) in order to recognize scientists sufficiently early in their career to have an impact on future research plans and employment opportunities. Through such recognition we aim to encourage the best efforts of participating students and also energize and motivate the student advisors and colleagues. In turn, this striving for excellence will benefit the entire scientific enterprise, including basic research and its application to policy issues.

OBJECTIVES

To award a total of six \$500 cash prizes to honor recipients of ASLO Student Poster Awards. Three awards to be presented at the joint ASLO/AGU Ocean Sciences Meeting in San Diego in February 1998 and three to be presented at the joint ASLO/ESA Meeting held in St. Louis in June 1998.

APPROACH

Poster judging takes place in two rounds. In the first round, each poster is critiqued by at least two judges on the basis of: creativity/significance; quality of experimental design/methods; and clarity of presentation/quality of tables and figures/overall visual quality/impact. The first round typically narrows the field to the top 10-20% of entrants. A panel of 3-6 judges then evaluates the finalists and makes the final selection. Recipients are announced and honored before the end of the meeting and, following the meeting, in the next issue of the ASLO Bulletin. They are also listed for at least five years in the ASLO Handbook and Directory.

WORK COMPLETED

At the February, 1998 ASLO/AGU Ocean Sciences meeting the three award recipients were:

Juli Berwald for Berwald, J., D.A. Kiefer and C.D. Mobley, "The lamina model for the downwelling average cosine of irradiance in the ocean."

John A. Quinlan for Quinlan, J. A., F. E. Werner, S. Gallager, R.G. Lough, J. van Keuren and L.J. Buckley, "Modeling the growth of first-feeding cod larvae on Georges Bank."

Gabriela W. Smalley for Smalley, G.W., D.W. Coats, and D.K. Stoecker, "Influence of prey density, light, and nutrients on feeding behavior of the mixotrophic dinoflagellate *Ceratium furca*"

At the June, 1998 ASLO/ESA Meeting, where 25 judges evaluated 123 posters, the three award recipients were:

Karleen A. Boyle for Boyle, K.A., K. Kamer and P. Fong, "A microcosm experiment testing whether nitrogen or phosphorous limits macroalgal blooms in a highly eutrophic southern California estuary."

Kevin T. Fielman for Fielman, K.T., S.A. Woodin, D.E. Lincoln and A.C. Kitchell, "Novel nasty neighbors: A test of tolerance."

Jennifer L. Klug for Klug, J. L., J. M. Fischer and A. R. Ives, "Compensatory dynamics in planktonic community responses to pH perturbations."

RESULTS

Not applicable to this project

IMPACT

The monetary awards have served to increase the number and quality of submissions, as well as to increase the prestige of the award itself. This has been an extremely valuable form of recognition for students at a critical point in their career development. Through presentations at the meetings and follow-up articles in the ASLO Bulletin, students are gaining a high level of recognition which they would not otherwise achieve. The striving for excellence which these awards encourage is having a positive and lasting impact upon the aquatic science community.

TRANSITIONS

Not applicable to this project

RELATED PROJECTS

None

PUBLICATIONS

Weiler, C.S. 1998. 1998 Outstanding Student Poster Award Recipients. *ASLO Bulletin* 7(2): 23-25.